THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) At present about 144 million cubic metres per day of natural gas is being flared in the Western Offshore fields. Additional facilities for evacuation and compression are proposed to be set up so that the gas can be brought on shore and supplied to consumers.

(c) An inter-ministerial committees is being appointed to examine the various issues pertaining to establishment of a Southern Gas Grid.

(d) The Gas Authority of India have proposed a project for supply of natural gas to domestic consumers as also industrial and commercial consumers in Bombay. The proposal is under consideration of the Government. The feasibility of supplying natural gas in Delhi is also being studied.

Development of industrial backward districts in Orissa

634. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 544 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th July, 1989 and to state :

(a) what are the proposals with the Central Government for development of the industrially backward districts in Orissa;

(b) whether any scheme has been drawn up in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c) The industrialisation of a State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. However, in order to promote industrialisation and reduce regional imbalances, the Central Government offers a number of incentives such as priority in the grant of industrial licences, concessional finance, exemption from income tax etc. to entrepreneurs setting up units in centrally declared backward areas. In the case of Orissa, a total of 8 backward districts are eligible for such concessions, in addition, the Central Government has also sanctioned 3 growth centres to Orissa under the 'No Industry District' Infrastructural Development Scheme, which are under various stages of implementation. Grotwh centres are also proposed to be established in Orissa under the new Growth Centre Scheme.

Setting up of industries in the 'No Industy Districtrs' at Orissa

635. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) how many 'No Industry Districts' are there in the the country ;

(b) whether there are some such districts in Orissa also ;

(c) if so, what are their names ; and

(d) what steps have been taken to set up industries in those 'No Industry Districts'?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) 93 districts have been identified as 'No Industry Districts'.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, Balasore, Bolangir and Phulbani are the three 'No Industry Districts' in the State of Orissa.

(d) Industrialisation of specific districts/areas is primarily the responsibility of the State Government/Union Territory concerned. The Central Government supplements their efforts by providing